

Neo-Endogenous Rural Renewal through Integrated Landscape Planning and Activity Design

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Abstract

Rural areas have distinctive historical characteristics and resource identities, which have garnered significant attention in modern development processes. New endogenous development is an important way to achieve rural revitalization which focuses on local resources and community participation. However, the neglect of synergies between landscape spatial planning and activity design makes it difficult to have an integrated impact on endogenous village development. Effective combination provide a more integrated and diverse framework of community needs and will promote community participation in both the planning and implementation phases. The study was conducted as a case study in Jianlou village in Changsha, China. The general objective is to develop an effective community participation model in both the planning and implementation phases. Tides wisdom, Acupuncture solutions, and Endogenous connections are the key methods through the village renewal and activities process. Endogenous power is revealed and has produced a deep influence on rural residents' life happiness and village vitality. This study is an essential experience for authorities in promoting rural endogenous development in the research location and can be applied in other areas with similar characteristics.

Keywords: Rural resources; landscape spatial planning; activity design; environment renewal; rural endogenous

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Introduction

Rural development has become a focus of attention in different countries and regions because of its unique natural resource conditions and geo-cultural characteristics. The loss of rural culture, the destruction of ecological conditions and the reduction of vitality are common problems in the countryside today (Li et al., 2019; Ye et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2020). The development and regeneration of the countryside has far-reaching consequences for ecosystems, local cultures and human well-being (urban and rural populations) (Ige et al., 2024; Kalogiannidis et al., 2023). Rural issues are not monolithic, there are complex relationships between them, and there is a greater need for place-based approaches to understanding the complex rural situation of Native peoples (Carter & Hollinsworth, 2009; Knickel & Renting, 2000). New Endogenous Rural Development (NERD) is one such potential solution. It utilizes local resources and community participation while incorporating approaches to external influences such as policy, market dynamics and external finance (Bosworth, 2008; Bosworth & Turner, 2018; Ray, 2001). Spatial planning and activity design are powerful tools for promoting the endogenous development of new rural areas, with one emphasising spatial governance and the other focusing on activity dynamics (Sun et al., 2021; Wu, 2024).

Despite the growing interest in rural revitalisation, there is still a lack of practical research on how to effectively integrate spatial design with the different needs of multiple interest groups in the countryside. In particular, there is a need to explore environmentally sensitive strategies that optimise spatial governance while supporting the daily lives, productive activities and social dynamics of rural residents. In the current wave of rural revitalisation in China, numerous rural revitalisation projects have emerged. However, few studies have provided specific frameworks that link spatial governance to strengthening endogenous development capacity. Addressing this issue is critical if duplication is to be avoided and rural quality of life, community cohesion and sustainable socio-economic development are to be improved.

The paper begins with a review of the literature on new endogenous development in villages and further explains its current status in the context of development in China. Then, the research methodology is presented, and finally the results and discussion present a comprehensive model of neo-endogenous development. The concluding section explains the main intellectual and practical outcomes of the paper and describes its implications and limitations.

Literature Review

Neo-Endogenous Rural Development

Neo-endogenous rural development (NERD) is a concept that focuses on sustainable rural development, first defined by Ray in 2001 as an approach that utilizes local resources and community participation while incorporating external influences such as policy, market dynamics and external finance (Bosworth, 2008; Bosworth & Turner, 2018; Ray, 2001). Traditional development models tend to consider local institutions and resources (endogenous forces) and external social networks (exogenous forces) in isolation (Farrell et al., 2023). However, neo-endogenous rural development highlights the full integration of internal and external factors to achieve a dual recognition and balance between internal potential and external support. The external support mechanisms and synergies promoted by the EU's (European) LEADER program make neo-endogenous rural development a practicable and resilient approach to rural socio-economic challenges (Adamowicz, 2020; Georgios et al., 2021; Olmedo & O'Shaughnessy, 2022).

Spatial Planning and Activity Design

The interaction between spatial planning and activity design as a strategic approach to the new endogenous rural development will ultimately strengthen the local economy, vitality and sustainability: the former as a means of integrating land resources and space to reach specific environmental and developmental goals, and the latter as the construction and organization of activities on the basis of this space (Đorđević et al., 2020; Frank & Engelke, 2001; Yigitcanlar & Dizdaroglu, 2015). The ability of the spatial framework to adapt to dynamic changes such as ecological changes and community needs will be validated in the design of activities, and this adaptability will promote resilient development (AlWaer et al., 2021; Ribeiro & Pena Jardim Gonçalves, 2019; Shafiei Dastjerdi et al., 2021; Wates & Thompson, 2013). This resilient development creates more appropriate spaces for activities that stimulate rural regeneration and internal vitality (Hui et al., 2021; Rao et al., 2023).

Rural Development Renewal in Hunan Province, China

China's 14th Five-Year Plan regards rural construction as an important part of

socialist modernization, emphasising the optimization of rural space (production, living and ecology) and the improvement of the living environment (National Development and Reform Commission, 2022). The national modernization strategy focuses on the countryside and sees the full activation of peasant subjectivity as the endogenous driving force and fundamental basis for the implementation of rural revitalization (Xishuang & Jianwen, 2023). The construction of beautiful housing estates is one of the policies for the construction of beautiful villages in Hunan, but the preliminary construction process is slow in some areas. This is mainly due to the lack of coordination mechanisms between government departments and the low motivation of local farmers (Jianming et al., 2023). Rural spatial governance is accelerating, and villagers' demand for rural public space and cultural space is growing, but this split between spatial governance and actual demand has resulted in rural renewal construction remaining in landscape or image functions (Qing et al., 2022; Zhenmin & Lei, 2023). Researchers emphasised that rural values should be both material and spiritual and that this was an important force in the rural territorial system to provide all kinds of resources for the actors, as well as to safeguard the activities and promote cultural renaissance (Zhaofeng et al., 2023; Zhenmin & Lei, 2023).

Methods

Study Area: Jianlou Village, Changsha, China

Jianlou village covers an area of 1,350 hectares and is situated northeast of Dongting Lake, approximately 22 km from the capital city (Changsha) of Hunan province. It has convenient traffic and ideally geographical location. The village has four distinct seasons and a short cold period, belonging to the subtropical continental monsoon humid climate. It is located on the south bank of Weishui River, and there are more river systems in the area. The village is dominated by farmland and hills, relying on farmland resources to form a modern agricultural co-operative. It has a large scale of primary production development, with modern green agricultural development, and a low level of secondary and tertiary production development. The study area for this study is located in Yuanzhou Area, which is an intra-village settlement with a high population concentration and close to the cooperative. Through the design and renovation of three activity venues in this area, as well as the overlapping of different activities within the venues and areas, an attempt was made to enhance the internal vitality of the area. (Figure 1)

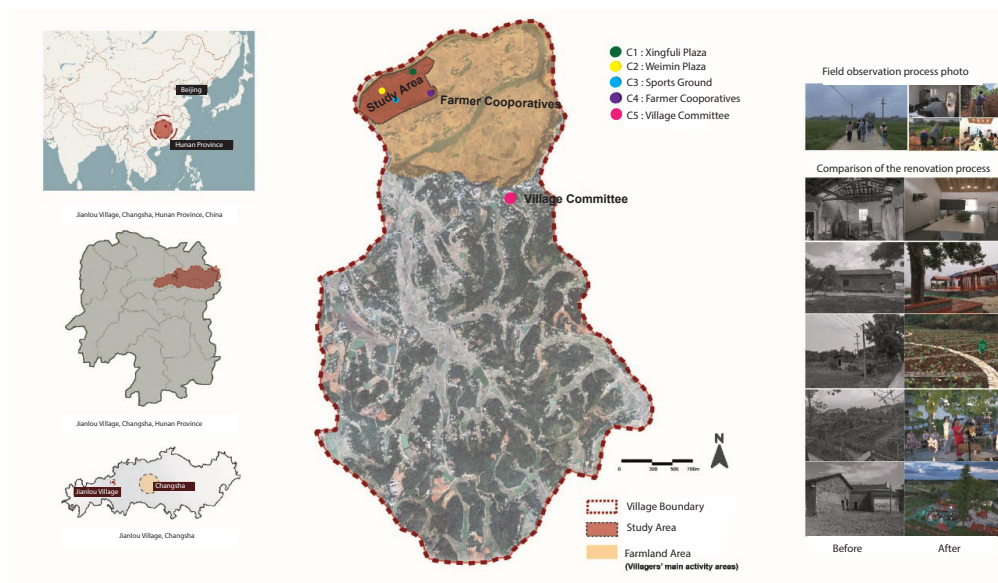


Figure 1: Study Area Map Jianlou Village.

The village population is aging seriously, most of them are over 50 years old, few middle-aged people live in the village permanently, young people work outside the village and only live in the village briefly during weekends and New Year festivals, while students and children come back to the village with their parents to visit the old people during New Year festivals.

The village can be divided into 6 areas and 37 groups, which are Shengli Area (281 households), Yutang Area (237 households), Huanglu Area (256 households), Shuanghu Area (248 households), Shuanghu Area (248 households) and Yuanzhou Area (382 households).

The village lacked public spaces and life scenarios before the renovation, and the villagers' main activity areas were the co-operatives and the Village Committee, one of which was the local work center and the other the local administrative center. In addition, the village organizes a small market in the open space under the viaduct on the 9th, 19th and 29th of every month. This is a snapshot of life and activities in the village before, where, apart from the necessities of daily life and work, the doors of households in the village were basically closed and there was not much communication and interaction. There was a lack of vitality in the village and a lack of activity venues to serve the villagers.

Methods

A qualitative methodological survey was used in the pre-design phase to gather the perceptions of different villagers on space use needs, modes and activities. Field observations were made through photographic documentation and note-taking to characterise the available land and the surrounding environment. Semi-structured interviews (Table 1) were conducted with 10 participants (5 males, 5 females, 7 adults, 3 children) aged between 8 and 86 years, centred around public space claims, activity needs within the village. Purposeful and theoretical sampling strategies were used, and although the village consists of 6 areas and 37 groups, the aim was not to make statistical generalisations, but to gain insight into the views of a community that is familiar with the area and has strong feelings about it. Selection was based on diversity of roles, age, gender and length of residence to ensure that key variations relevant to the research questions were covered. The sample size is in line with the norms of qualitative research, where depth is prioritised over breadth, particularly in exploratory rural community research.

Participants were randomly sampled from households living in the study area. In addition, three thematic group discussions were conducted for the different roles, focusing on the government perspective, tourism business perspective, and activity design perspective (Table 2). In identifying these groups, local leaders were consulted, and prior field contacts were made to ensure contextual relevance and thematic alignment with the research objectives. All interview transcripts and field notes were systematically coded into themes (e.g. public space needs, challenges to existing facilities), and these thematic insights were subsequently triangulated through group discussions to inform design solutions.

These methods allow detailed exploration of complex emotional, motivational and social processes directly from the participant's perspective. They can help to reveal meaning, uncover hidden factors or discover new insights, and moreover, help to find effective ways to activate endogenous development in villages.

Table 1: Participants Cited in This Article

Respondent	Age	Gender	Status
R1	10	Male	Student
R2	8	Female	Student
R3	12	Female	Student
R4	70	Male	Worker
R5	70	Male	Worker
R6	82	Female	Retired
R7	56	Female	Retired
R8	58	Male	Officials
R9	46	Female	Housewife
R10	41	Male	Officials

Table 2: Group Discussions Cited in This Article

Group	Discussion Topics	Number of participants	Personnel identity composition
G1	Village development and demands (government's perspective)	8	GP1(Village Chief),GP2(Academic representatives),GP3 (Academic representatives),GP4(Academic representatives),GP5 (Village officials),GP6(Village officials), GP7(Villagers),GP8(enterprise representatives)
G2	Development potential and demand of study tour	9	GP1(Village Chief),GP2(Academic representatives),GP3 (Academic representatives),GP4(Academic representatives),GP5 (Academic representatives),GP6(enterprise representatives), GP7(enterprise representatives),GP8(enterprise representatives),GP9(Village officials)
G3	Activity design venue demands	5	GP1(Activity Design manager),GP2(activity designer),GP3 (activity tutor),GP4(Academic representatives),GP5 (enterprise representatives)

Results and Discussions

Acupuncture Renewal

Acupuncture design refers to the revitalisation of the local spatial structure through small-scale, small-spot interventions, with an emphasis on practical spatial optimisation solutions constructed from the real needs and problems of the local population, incorporating costs, needs and real-life scenarios.

Yuanzhou area has become a relatively complete settlement, the available vacant land is very limited, and part of the land ownership division is controversial, therefore, a very large-scale plaza renovation is a lack of realistic feasibility and at the same time deviate from the expectations of the villagers. G1 Group discussions mentioned as below:

"At present, large open spaces in this area are limited, but the long-term lack of public space is a problem that we urgently need to solve. Therefore, we proposed to make use of the vegetable plots and open spaces owned by co-operatives and village collectives, and meanwhile, to call on villagers to donate some individual land to build new plazas, with village officials in particular playing a pioneering role." (G1)

This view was also agreed by the villagers:

"It is good that this unused land can be contributed for everyone's use, and with public space, we can also enjoy the changes that the new space brings to our lives." (R8)

After the land ownership issue has been resolved, the villagers actually have their ideas on how the overall environment of the village can be upgraded.

“The overall appearance of the village also needs to be updated, especially as the vegetable plots of all the houses are littered and overgrown.” (G1)

“We don’t want a big site, and we don’t want to compare ourselves with the neighboring villages. We just want to have some scenarios of life, and it’s enough to have these public spaces for chatting and walking.” (R9)

“This vegetable patch definitely needs to be dealt with, it’s piled with rubbish, soil, fertilizer all down the road outside, and I’m sure it’s not a good mood to walk around the village.” (R10)

Table 3: Key Insights for Acupuncture Renewal Design

Respondent	Key Insights	Corresponding concepts
G1	Lack of key public spaces	Venues point
	The overall look needs to be updated, with rubbish and overgrown weeds all over the place.	Patch point
R8	New public spaces make a difference in life	Venues point
R9	Would like to have some living scenes, continuous grounds for chats and walks	Blood vessel
R10	Vegetable plot image needs to be dealt with	Patch point

The design needs to leave space and narrow down the role of the designer himself, give more space to the villagers, and make a design that is more common and closer to real life rather than highlight the idealization of the designer (Buckridge & Gerlach, n.d.; Lee, 2008; Papanek, 2019).

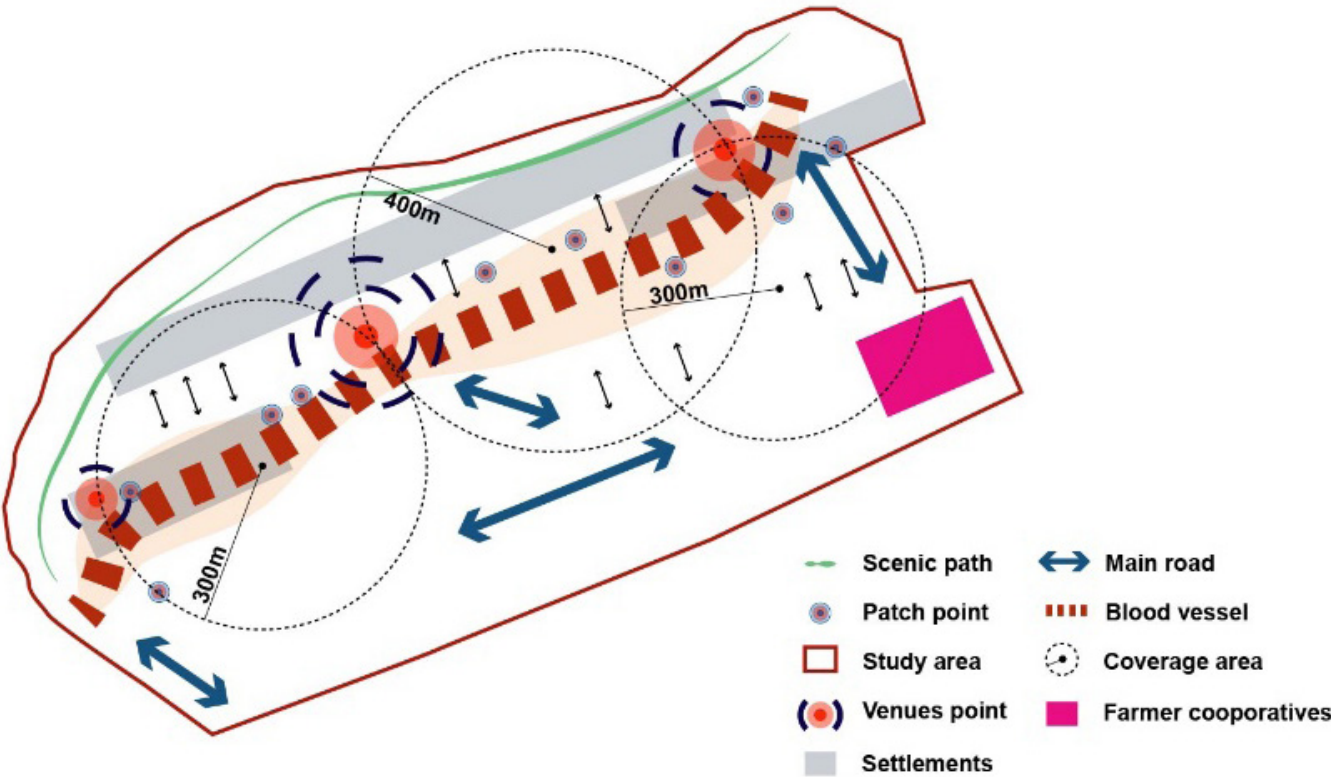


Figure 2: Acupuncture Renewal Design Solutions.

Acupunctural design is often used in the urban sphere and refers to the revitalization of the urban fabric through small-scale interventions (Naghibi et al., 2020). (Hoogduyn, 2014) emphasised how citizens are often seen as the eyes of the real scenario and therefore know better what problems and needs exist in the area. It is also a realistic and feasible solution that combines costs, needs and real-life scenarios (X Lou, 2023). It consists of two main points. Firstly, taking the available land owned by the village collective as the benchmark, together with a small amount of land that the villagers and village cadres are willing to contribute on their own initiative, it creates three small venues that can be transformed within the main area, namely the Happiness Lane Plaza (1,520 square meters), the Yuanzhou Sports Ground (80 square meters), and the Weimin Plaza (619 square meters). Secondly, these three sites will be used as points to link up the routes along the way and to build an overall camp for the fences of the residents' vegetable plots in the in the Figure 2.

Tides Wisdom

Tides wisdom refers to a practical approach that meticulously divides and distributes various needs in terms of time, stakeholders, and activities, pursuing participatory and efficient use of space, compounding site functions, and effectively resolving local spatial conflicts.

Different roles have focused expectations of the venue, and different groups of people are concerned with functions that include activities and social impacts in addition to spatial functions. It is important to understand the overlapping functions and to consider all three functions and their possible scenarios and activities in the pre-design phase for the vitality of the site and its later use.

Most of the villagers' needs for the venue are focused on spatial functionality, a true reflection of closeness to life.

"It would be great to have a square in the village where the grandchildren can play ball when they come back." (R5)

"It's nice to be able to stop and rest, chat to other people and catch a cool breeze when you're walking around the village." (R6)

"Wish there was a place to take a walk, have a chat and do some square dancing." (R9)

"I like to play basketball and want a basketball court." (R1)

"I played table tennis and basketball when I was young, but I don't do much sport now, and the village didn't have the conditions for this venue before." (R8)

"A big place to play hide and seek and tag." (R2,R3)

"I'm just planting vegetables now, but the plots are sometimes chewed up by feral dogs and cats and chickens that I feed." (R7)

From the villagers' point of view, this spatial function is very simple, mainly an open space with resting facilities and sports functions. In addition, small children would like this space to cater for them to do some chasing, running and hiding games. It is worth noting that the villagers also have concerns and expectations about the vegetable field from their perspective, which can be combined with the village committee's concerns for improving the visual image of the plot.

The perspective of the committee is different from that of the villagers. Apart from focusing on the functions of the venues, they will also want to make use of the venues to carry out some communication activities with the villagers and use them as an opportunity to generate more social benefits and interaction.

"The plaza will also cater for our usual meetings and exchanges. This public space will enable villagers to go out of their homes for exercise, walks and exchanges, thus enhancing the vitality of the village." (G1)

"In the past few years, the neighboring villages have also held some study activities, and our different types of plazas are used by our own people on the one hand, and on the other hand, we need to meet the needs of city dwellers who can carry out educational or rural life experience activities." (G1)

Therefore, communication between groups inside and outside the village becomes a key aspect in clarifying the conditions needed for the activities to take place, and in clarifying the specific needs to be overlapped in the venue, which needs to be fulfilled at the same time as the function of the activities.

"Usually, the beginning of an activity requires a venue for assembly and opening ceremony, this venue needs to have a stage, space and equipment, the general activities carried out in the countryside are more rural landscape observation (flora and fauna, residential houses), hands-on practice (vegetable gardening, agricultural practice), knowledge popularisation (flora and fauna, culture), which do not require a high level of venue, but more of a content design. However, the route needs to be clear, and the safety and guidance along the way needs to be clear." (G2)

"The venue should facilitate the need for post-decorating, such as reserving some space for hanging, fixing, taping or displaying, and decorating is necessary for the sense of ambience of each event. Some indoor or resting places and space for temporary storage of equipment and tools should be considered around the perimeter of each venue; such logistics are equally indispensable. If an overnight camp event is being considered, the accessibility and spatial flow between the catering and accommodation of the participating participants and the event venue also needs to be considered." (G3)

"The open space is a general-purpose site, generally viewed as the main node of the activity route, assembly, games, the main knowledge of the popularisation of science can be carried out in this type of site, such as the Happy Mile Plaza, which itself has a vegetable field can be retained, and appropriately transformed to meet the demand for the development of plant cultivation, aesthetics and aesthetics, biological popularisation of science, and other activities of a more practical type." (G3)

Different types of needs point to different functions, and there are links and overlapping parts between these needs. Tidal transport solutions are a common means of solving urban traffic problems, allowing for flexible resource planning and spatial allocation according to the level of demand (Cherfaoui & Djelal, 2019; Wang et al., 2019). This tidal intelligence helps to design the site with versatility and flexibility to overlay the needs of different types of people at the same time.

The needs of different types of people can be summarised into three categories, namely spatial function, activity function and social impact function. The spatial function is the characteristic of the site itself, and the realisation of this part of the function is mainly accomplished by the designer's professional knowledge superimposed on the villagers' life needs.

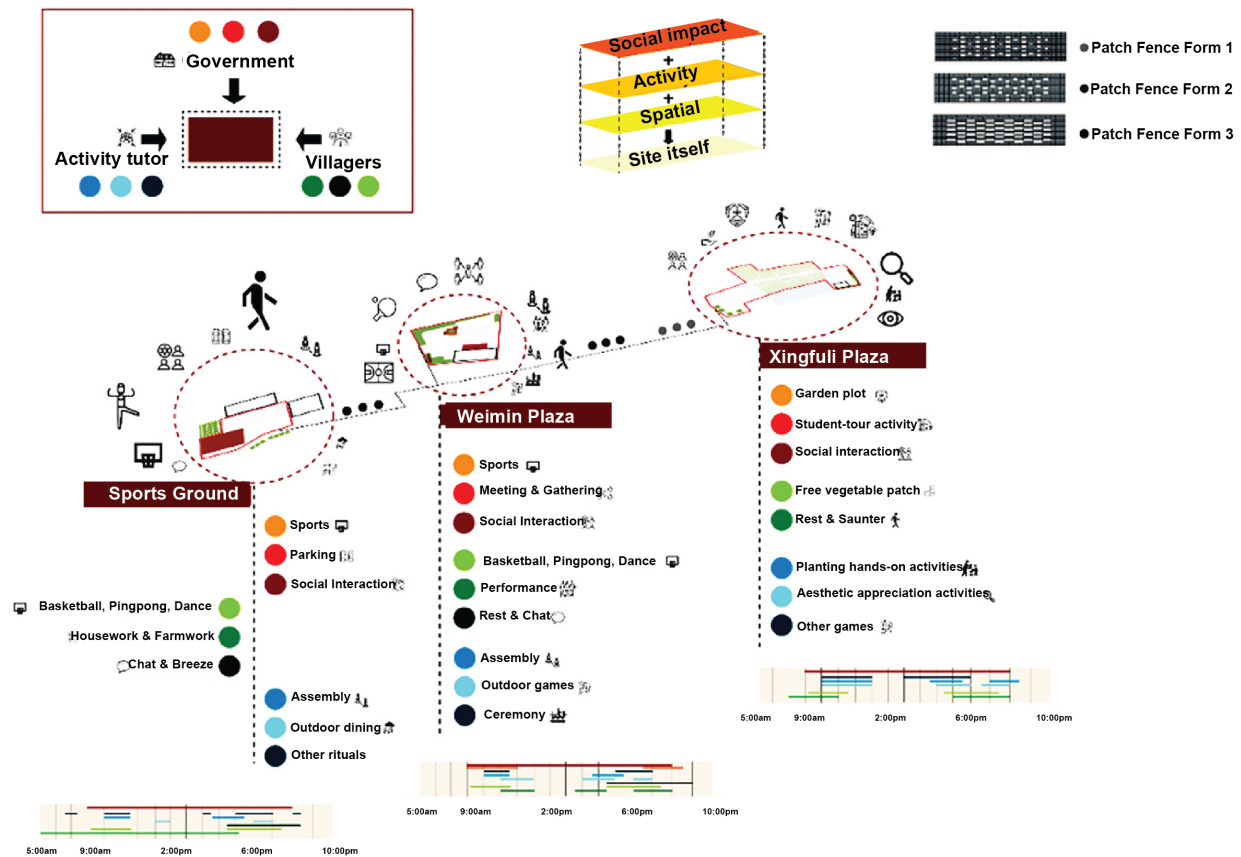


Figure 3: Tides Wisdom Solutions.

On this basis, activity functions such as natural planting education programme activities, large-scale gathering activities and village long-table banquets are mainly guided by the professional opinions of activity instructors, which need to comprehensively consider the needs of activity design and activity venue implementation, and designers also need to actively communicate with village committees and villagers, to expand their activity planning and operation capabilities. Social functions include urban-rural linkage, villagers' interaction, students' study camps, and exchanges between village enterprises, schools and communities. The focus of this part is to strengthen the social network linkages and the potential for socio-economic development (Figure 3, Table 4).

Venues are limited, but a careful investigation of the timing of venue use guided by different groups of people and different purposes reveals patterns. The peak hours of use are 9am and 6pm, but this conflict can be co-ordinated, and in some cases, it can be reversed and utilised to further enhance the vitality of the site. For C1 sites, students' hands-on activities and villagers' planting or recreational needs may take place in the same period of time, and the villagers' planting experience can precisely serve as a guide for the students, and this kind of localised planting wisdom is more worthwhile to be learnt than the theoretical knowledge, and for the students the contact with the local community residents is also a source of unforgettable experiences and memories for them (Sojasi Qeidari et al., 2024). Villagers and activity tutors are also pleased to see this scenario.

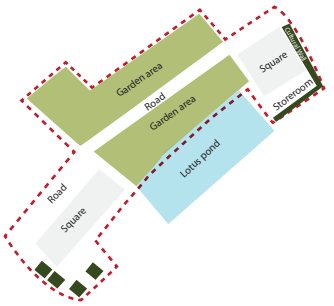
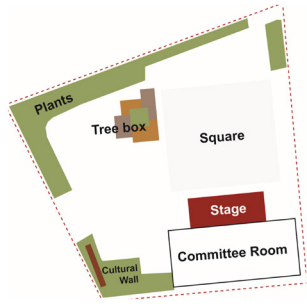
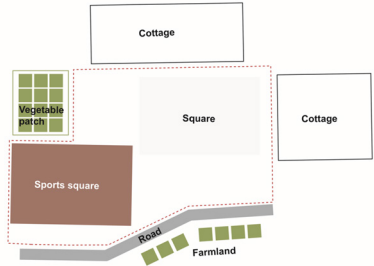
"I may not be good at anything else, but teaching these kids about vegetables and gardening, that's something I think every one of us here is good at and willing to share with the kids." (R5)

“Our activities take children to engage with the land, with real environments and people in a relaxed and enjoyable way as much as possible, and it is very rewarding to have villagers involved as a small part of the sharing.” (G3)”

For C2 and C3 venues, the requirements for the use of the venue are different for different groups of people, and the areas to be used are also different. These two types of activities can happen in the venue at the same time, and both sides can be spectators or participants in each other's activities. If a large-scale event is encountered and the venue space is insufficient to accommodate it, in fact, C2 and C3 can also be used interchangeably as alternatives for different activities. This is very easy to realise when the conditions and requirements for the implementation of the event are clear, and this possibility is taken into account in the preliminary design and construction.

The geographical connection and unity of the three sites was also a key point to consider, in which both the villagers and the government also expressed their concerns about the routes and vegetable plots along the way. The villagers are concerned about the interests and maintenance of their own vegetable plots, while the village committee is more concerned about the image, which can be solved by a simple wall enclosure. Therefore, the designers worked with the village craftsmen to design three forms of fences to maintain uniformity and variety.

Table 4: Description of Venues and Functions

	Spatial	Activity	Social effect	Graphical examples
C1:Xingfuli Plaza	Planting	Planting, Natural-education program, Aesthetic activities,(Villagers Concert	Villager interaction, Village-city interaction	
C2:Weimin Plaza	Gathering	villagers meeting, Performance activities, Cool party	Village-city interaction, Village-school interaction, Villager interaction, Village-enterprise interaction	
C3:Yuanzhou Sports Ground	Sports	long-table feast, Country field games, tea party	Village-enterprise interaction, Village-school interaction, Village-city interaction	

Endogenous Connections

Endogenous connections refers to social network linkages developed over time in the process of local practice.

Throughout the process, special attention needs to be paid to the linkages between their different social identities and social groups, and the analysis and use of such linkages is often an important means of strengthening endogenous linkages (Figure 4).

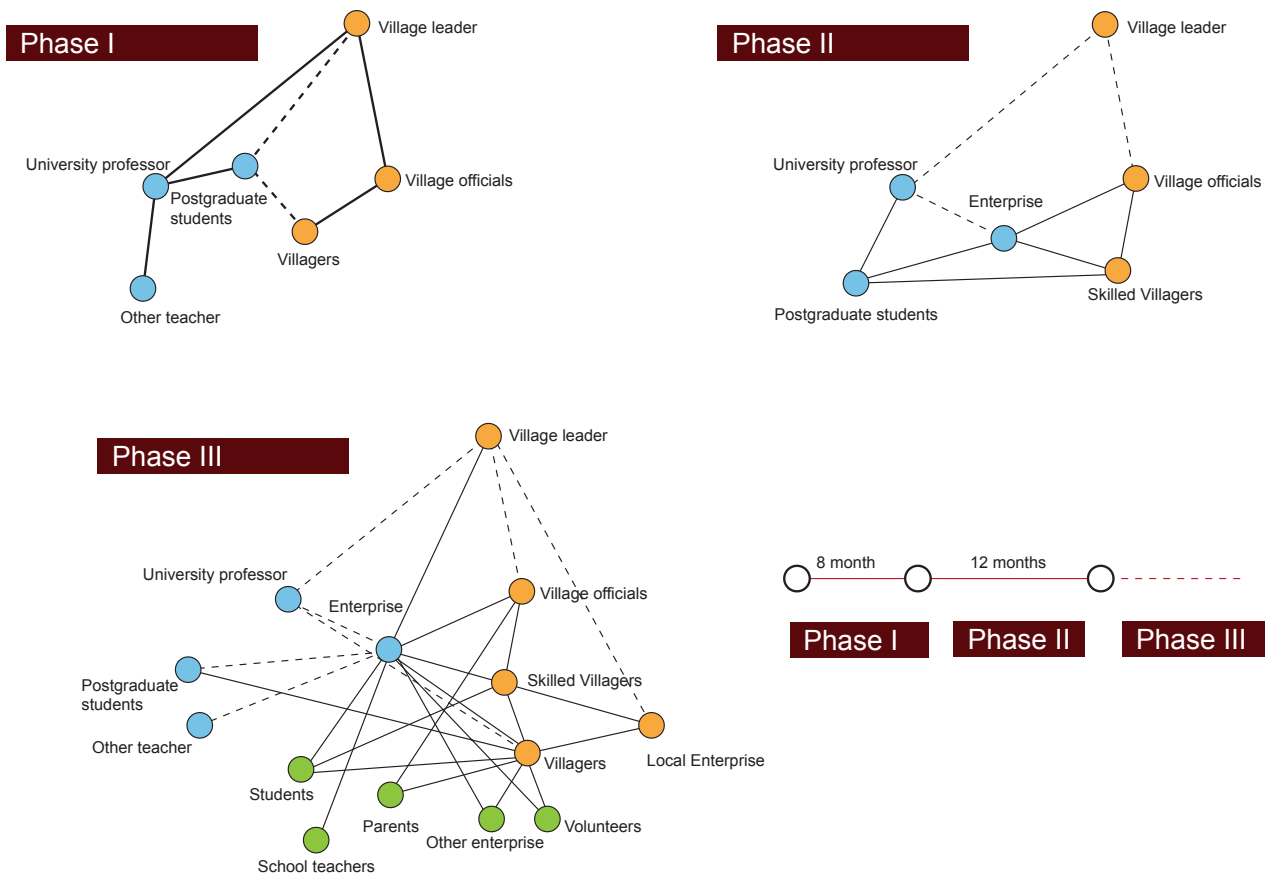


Figure 4: Endogenous Social Connections Map.

In the process of combining site design and activity design, an intersection of different social identities emerges, and this interaction expands, slowly spreading into an interconnected network that includes individual villagers. After summarising these changes, it can be seen that they can be divided into three main phases depending on the time and the interaction of the population. Phase 1 is mainly the preliminary investigation and sorting out stage of the design, which lasted about 8 months, at this time the villagers did not show an important position, Phase 2 mainly includes the design and construction stage (lasted 1 year), where the villagers began to intertwine in the process, especially the discovery of skilled villagers (e.g., carpentry, masonry) deeply involved in the process, and Phase 3 is the stage of the site improvement and the implementation of the activities, when the network has already been formed, not only between the villagers of the internal network, different social identities outside the village also intersected with the intra-village network. Moreover, this social network relationship is strengthened and expanded again from one activity to the next. Although it is the elderly and children

who are the majority of long-term residents in the villages, the social networks have attracted more young adults to the villages, which supports the management needed for this participatory model to be viable in the long term. It is also worth noting that with the different phases of development, people gradually opened their doors more often and began spending time in the new public spaces for socializing and outdoor activities.

As the community feedback we got after Phase 3 said:

"Before the renovation, everyone stayed at home and there was nowhere to go outside, but now we can go around the village, and everyone has a few benches in front of the door where old neighbours can sit and chat when they come over, and sometimes there are activities that we can get involved in as well. I really like the environment now." (R5)

Neo-Endogenous Rural Development Model

Community participatory is the main driving force of endogenous development in villages, especially the participation of individuals in the process of identifying and coordinating local conditions constitutes an endogenous resource. And this endogenous resource increases with strong external networks and appropriate spaces for mixed interaction (High & Nemes, 2007; Marango et al., 2021; Margarian, 2013).

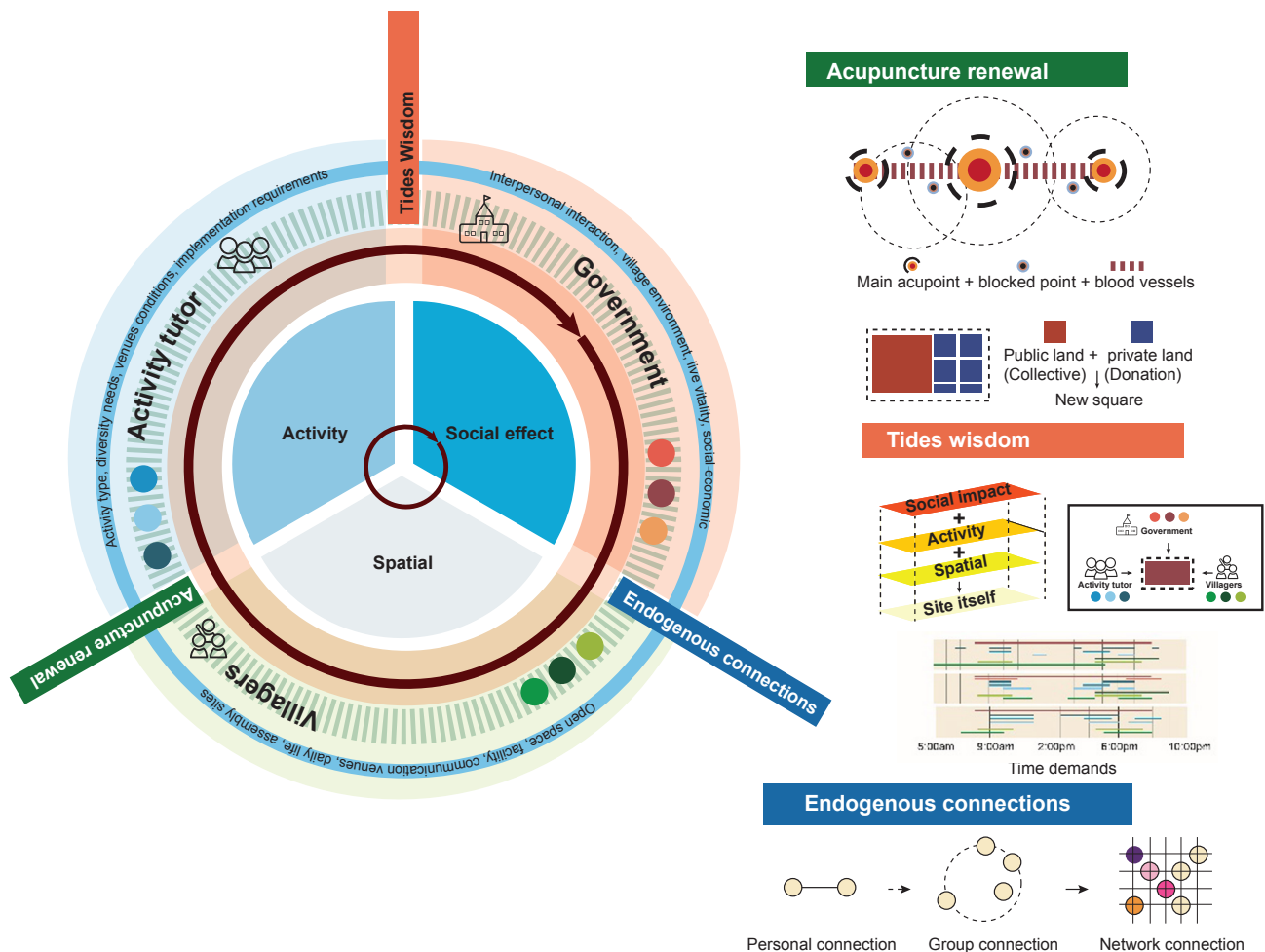


Figure 5: Neo-Endogenous Rural Development Model

The spatial, activity and social impact functions are progressively superimposed on the regeneration of the rural site, which is an evolution of endogenous development. Spatial function is the basic condition and opportunity for community participation, and the Acupuncture Renewal Programme is an important strategy for realising spatial function in the complex land relations and context of the countryside, providing the conditions for community participation. Activity function is the starting point for endogenous resources to start interacting, and the comprehensive accumulation of demands needs to be put into practice. Tides wisdom carefully divides and allocates various demands from time, identity, activities and other aspects, which is an effective method of participatory and efficient use of space and resolution of local conflicts. The social impact function is an escalation based on space and activity, slowly representing the formation of a network, and the gradual formation of this endogenous network expands the scope of participation and facilitates wider interaction, evaluation and innovation.

Conclusion

This study proposes a new integrated model of endogenous rural development that holistically integrates landscape design, activity planning and community participation. By harmonising the spatial, social and functional dimensions of regeneration, the model enhances the internal dynamics of rural areas and facilitates a bottom-up regeneration process rooted in local needs and capacities. The approach emphasises interconnectedness: each element of the site - whether spatial, social or cultural - is interwoven into a larger loop and feedback system. Tools such as acupuncture regeneration, Tides wisdom and endogenous connections have proved effective in activating site vitality and enhancing community cohesion. Our findings reinforce the view in rural development theory that small-scale community-led interventions tend to be more sustainable than top-down projects, which often fail due to a disconnect with local realities (Gillespie, 2004; Henfrey et al., 2023). Similar integrated approaches in other contexts also suggest that combining development initiatives with the everyday needs of residents can both enhance participation and effectiveness (Bovaird, 2007; Madrazo et al., 2025; Pan et al., 2022).

Despite the encouraging results of this study, there were some limitations. The study was conducted within a single settlement in a village and therefore may not adequately reflect the diversity of perspectives and conditions in the wider rural environment. Whilst the research methodology and design framework is adaptable and more widely applicable, its application to other settings would need to be adapted to the analysis of regional conditions. In addition, the proposed model has only been tested locally and should be validated by applying it to a wider range of rural settings.

Future research should apply and refine the model in different geographical and cultural contexts, exploring how different communities respond to and reshape the framework. Comparative studies and longitudinal tracking could provide more insight into its long-term effectiveness, adaptability, and challenges. Additional research could also focus on refining tools for resolving stakeholder conflicts and supporting implementation, especially in areas with limited planning resources.

This study offers a strategic and participatory pathway to rural regeneration, contributing to the current discourse on sustainable and inclusive rural development in both theory and practice.

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